

RECOGNIZING CHARLES ANDREW
BISHOP FOR ACHIEVING THE
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 6, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Charles Andrew Bishop, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Charles has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the five years Charles has been involved with scouting, he has earned 31 merit badges and has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, and Den Chief. Charles is also a Tom-Tom Beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say.

For his Eagle Scout project, Charles built a hiking path at the Parkville Nature Sanctuary in Parkville, Missouri. The bridge will create an elevated walking platform that will not spoil the natural landscape.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Charles Andrew Bishop for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

EPHEDRA

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 6, 2003

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, with the support of my colleagues, Representative JIM GREENWOOD, Representative GREG WALDEN, Representative HENRY WAXMAN and Representative SWEENEY, I rise today to introduce a resolution calling on Health and Human Services Secretary Thompson to remove dietary supplements containing ephedrine alkaloids from the marketplace.

Medical literature indicates that there is a connection between ephedra use and heart attacks, strokes, seizures and death. The American Medical Association has long held that the risks associated with ephedra far outweigh any possible benefits and that the weight of the available clinical evidence supports the removal of dietary supplement products containing ephedra from the market.

In addition, the FDA has received at least 16,500 reports regarding adverse experiences associated with ephedra use and 155 deaths have been conclusively linked to ephedra.

But, after you waded through the reports and understand the statistics, what it comes down to is that individuals are being hurt by what they don't know. Consumers don't know that dietary supplements on store shelves have not been tested for safety. They don't know that the ephedrine/caffeine combination that Baltimore Orioles pitcher Steve Bechler used last spring was taken off of the shelves by the FDA as an over the counter drug, but it continues to be available as a dietary supplement.

I have heard from doctors whose busy days are made more difficult by patients taking die-

tary supplements. One doctor in San Diego wrote:

Ephedra reports have been going on for years. I think it is the responsibility of the FDA to do something about this since the public cannot respond to new information regarding serious side effects reported in medical journals. My patients ask me why these products are on the market and why they are not regulated by the FDA?

Why are these products on the market? Many people would like to know the answer to this question. With the support of my congressional colleagues, I hope we can soon resolve this issue.

I would like to tell you about another person. "Margaret," as I will call her to preserve her privacy, is a 24-year-old woman in California who walks with the assistance of a cane. Two years ago, she suffered a serious stroke that left her on life support and without much hope of survival. But Margaret overcame the odds.

Her long road to recovery included surgeries and countless physical therapy sessions, helping her progress from a wheelchair to a cane. How could someone as young as Margaret suffer such a life-threatening event? According to her doctor, a reaction between her prescribed medication and some over-the-counter diet pills containing ephedra caused her stroke.

I hope the FDA will use its present authority to safeguard our loved ones from the risks of unregulated and untested dietary supplements. Our families depend on it.

**HONORING DAN HEINLEN, OHIO
STATE'S NUMBER ONE ADVOCATE**

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 6, 2003

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to join with my fellow graduates of the Ohio State University from across the country in honoring Dan Heinlen, who is retiring from his post as head of the Ohio State University Alumni Association.

Dan's outstanding work on behalf of the university and its students, staff and alumni has earned him the unofficial title of Ohio State's number one advocate. As President and CEO of the alumni association for the past 30 years, he has seen the organization grow from 50 thousand members and a budget of less than \$1 million to one that now represents almost 125,000 alumni worldwide with a budget of more than \$6 million.

A 1960 Ohio State graduate, Dan has served in a wide variety of positions under six university presidents. He is currently Secretary of the alumni association's Board of Directors, the Alumni Advisory Council and the Ohio State Student Loan Foundation, Inc. He is an ex officio member of the Ohio State University Foundation Board, its nominating committee, the University Trustees' Government Affairs and Outreach and Engagement Committees, sits on the Academy for Distinguished Teaching Executive Council and chaired the 2002 Ohio Presidents' Inter-University Council Alumni Advocacy Planning Taskforce.

Dan is a pioneer and one of the most respected leaders in the field of alumni work, and is a frequent consultant to alumni associa-

tions across the country. He has also long been active in community and civic affairs.

As Dan and his wife Gelene prepare for an exciting new phase of their lives, I know everyone connected with Ohio State will welcome his continued advice and support.

TRIBUTE TO BOB SKINNER, JR.

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 6, 2003

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to a fine American, a true gentleman and a good friend of mine, Mr. Bob Skinner, Jr. of Oregon on the occasion of the end of his term as president of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association (OCA). Bob is a fifth generation cattle rancher, raised on the high desert of southeast Oregon. Growing up on his family's ranch outside of the small town of Jordan Valley, Bob learned the virtues of hard work, patience, and dependability. After earning a B.S. degree in business from the College of Idaho, Bob's devotion to his family and friends and his affinity for the ranching way of life drew him home to Jordan Valley and Oregon's vast high desert landscapes.

Through his many efforts over the years, Bob has emerged as a powerful spokesman for family ranchers and the rural way of life both in Oregon and across the nation. During the early 1990's, he led the effort to organize his neighbors in defense of grazing rights along the Owyhee River following an attempt to eliminate grazing as a critical land management tool. In the late 1990's after the Steens Mountain was proposed as a national monument Bob teamed up with other ranchers, community leaders and me to find a solution that would ensure the sustainability of livestock production on the mountain while preserving treasured resources. Bob was critical to the establishment of the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area, which arose from legislation I introduced in Congress—one of the most widely applauded measures to affect eastern Oregon in decades.

Mr. Speaker, Bob enjoys a reputation as a clear, cool head in discussions pertaining to the cattle industry. He is effective precisely because of his ability to maintain a levelheaded and respectful demeanor while tenaciously fighting for the interests of family ranchers. Bob's quiet, articulate and effective leadership has earned him the respect of many in Oregon and throughout the West. Bob understands that we can preserve the ranching lifestyle and stand up for the hard-working people who make their living off the land while improving the environment. Ranchers are, in fact, true stewards of the land and have been for many generations.

Bob has been recognized for his leadership with a number of prestigious awards, among them the 1997 Voice of the Industry Award of the Portland Chamber Agriculture Industries Committee and the 2000 Salem Chamber Agriculture Star Award. Over the years, Bob has given back generously to his community by donating his time and energy to various worthy causes. He has served on numerous local boards ranging from the county road board to

the local ambulance board. Bob has also devoted much of his time to the young people of Malheur County as a 4-H leader. He further shares both his love of flying and his Cessna 182 to provide transportation for search and rescue personnel. I am proud to call Bob Skinner, Jr. my good friend and appreciate the opportunity to share his accomplishments over his long and distinguished career as an Oregon cattle rancher. The cattle industry and future generations of farmers and ranchers will continue to benefit from Bob's dedication and willingness to go the extra mile on their behalf.

I would be remiss if I failed to note Bob's remarkable family and all that they mean to him. Bob's father, Bob Skinner, Sr. is an equally impressive man. He resides in Jordan Valley, too, and has a distinguished leadership background similar to his son's. Bob Sr. was a former national committee member of the Public Lands Council and a Past President of Oregon Cattlemen's Association. I am fortunate to call Bob Sr. and his wonderful wife Sara my good friends. Bob Jr.'s wife, Karen, is likewise deserving of considerable praise. She is Bob's partner in success and travels great distances to dedicate herself to her community and industry. Together Bob and Karen have raised four children, Robbin, Kimberly, Silas, and Michael, who have given the Skinners six beloved grandchildren, Nicholas, Kirk and Birch, Kasen, Regann, and Kort. In the summer of 2002, I had the privilege of spending the night in Jordan Valley with the entire family and had a wonderful time getting to know the extended Skinner clan. Together they truly exemplify the dedicated, hard-working and fun-loving American family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating this extraordinary man and great American, Bob Skinner, Jr. I would like to thank Bob personally for all he has done for the people of Malheur County, the Second District, and the State of Oregon—especially those Westerners who make their living off the land. I wish Bob, his wife Karen and their entire family all the best in future endeavors.

GOODS MOVEMENT PROJECTS OF NATIONAL ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE (H.R. 3398)

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 6, 2003

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of this Congress, legislation that I recently introduced. The Goods Movement Projects of National Economic Significance is legislation that addresses some of our Nation's most pressing transportation and economic needs.

This is the problem:

How freight moves through our communities is an important issue with far reaching implications. Goods movement is the driving force of our Nation's economy. This is a State issue, a Federal issue and it is an issue that directly affects the communities in which we live.

According to the Federal Highway Administration, \$7.4 trillion in goods were moved on the Nation's highway system in 1998, directly employing 10 million people. In 2000, \$706 billion in international merchandise trade flowed

through U.S. seaports and \$646 billion was handled by our railroads.

The volume of goods is projected to grow nationally by 67 percent over the next two decades. This tremendous growth in international trade will continue to place an increasingly heavy burden on our Nation's seaports, trade corridors, highways and rail lines. Traffic congestion, delays, accidents, and freight transportation costs have increased as a result. On a human level—our citizens are spending more and more time stuck in traffic instead of at home with their families.

This is the history:

Over the past 30 years our population has grown, our international trade has increased and our congestion has worsened. For example, in 1970, trade was 12 percent of U.S. gross domestic product (GDP). Today, it is over 25 percent. Since 1970 the population of the U.S. has grown by 40 percent. At the same time, the number of registered vehicles has increased by 100 percent while our road capacity has increased by only 6 percent!

By the year 2020, shipment of containerized cargo moving in and out of the U.S. will increase by more than 350 percent.

By the year 2020, total domestic tonnage of freight carried by all U.S. freight systems will increase by at least 67 percent and international trade will increase by nearly 100 percent.

The transportation reauthorization bill is the perfect opportunity for us to address these pressing transportation infrastructure needs. TEA-21 began to address Goods Movement issues with the creation of the Borders and Corridors Program. But we need to take this need further during this reauthorization bill.

Funding for the Borders and Corridors program was far from adequate. This new legislation encourages communities and regions to develop comprehensive programs and plans that address the goods movement issues of our transportation infrastructure.

This legislation recognizes that we must have a dedicated source of funding to ensure that goods movement and projects of economic significance can be built and that these projects contribute to the overall efficiency of the national transportation infrastructure. As we continue the dialog of reauthorizing the transportation bill, the Goods Movement Projects of National Economic Significance needs to be a part of that conversation.

This is what we must do:

Goods Movement Projects of National Economic Significance will do the following: It will provide \$3 billion per year to a Goods Movement Program.

This legislation separates the Borders and Corridors Program and creates one strong Corridor and Gateway Program. Corridor projects represented 95 percent of the project requests for the Borders and Corridors program.

My legislation focuses our resources on projects and initiatives that promote the safe, secure and efficient mobility of goods and on the immediate and long-term needs of our transportation infrastructure.

This legislation combines and enhances elements of two highly successful transportation programs. This program uses the criteria from the Corridors program and combines it with the fiscal responsibility of the full funding grant agreement of the transit New Starts Program.

Specifically, this program provides \$1.5 billion a year, \$9 billion over the life of the reau-

thorization bill for local communities, States and the Federal Government to plan and build Goods Movement projects. These projects will ultimately enhance local, regional, and State economies, and of course, the national economy.

Finally, \$1.5 billion a year or \$9 billion over the life of the reauthorization bill will be dedicated to funding projects of National Economic Significance.

Throughout the country there are national bottlenecks that congest our communities and slow our national economy down. As we all know from experience, if there is a bottleneck on the highway, traffic several miles away can be affected.

If the type of gridlock that I just described happens and goes unchecked, it will affect an entire region and the entire country and ultimately our economy and the livability of our communities.

These are projects located throughout the country that are "ready to go" major investments in the national transportation infrastructure. By funding these projects we will be stimulating the national economy while investing in the long-term health of our national transportation infrastructure.

This legislation, like the entire transportation reauthorization bill, is an economic stimulus package. For every billion dollars invested in public transportation infrastructure, 47,000 jobs are created.

I ask my colleagues to strongly support this legislation as part of the transportation reauthorization bill. Join me and support The Goods Movement Projects of National Economic Significance.

CRUSADE 4 CHARACTER: CHARACTER FIRST IN HAMBURG

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 6, 2003

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, this evening in my hometown of Hamburg, NY representatives of all facets of the community will gather to conduct a "Town Meeting" to discuss the progress and future of Character First in Hamburg.

Character First in Hamburg is made up of numerous community leaders, who over the past two years, have put into place activities in support of good character throughout the town with a mission to create a culture of character in Hamburg.

I had hoped to participate as a keynote speaker for this community update where, along with defensive back and special teams player Coy Wire of the Buffalo Bills and Character First President Suzanne McKenney, concerned residents will hear the results of two years of Character First and highlights of the culture of character gaining momentum in the community.

Suzanne McKenney has been tireless in her extensive efforts over the last two years to bring Character initiatives to the business community, civic community, education community, faith community, government community and media community. Working with a well established Board of Directors and Committee Chairs there is a true emphasis upon creating a culture of character in Hamburg.